

REMARKS

Claims 1, 2 and 5 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 3, 4, 6 and 7 are canceled without prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject matter recited therein.

Claim 2 is amended to depend from claim 1. Thus, no new matter is added.

I. Allowed Claims

Applicants appreciate the allowance of claims 1 and 5. Pending claim 2 is in condition for allowance for the reasons discussed below.

II. Election of Species

A telephonic election of species was conducted on September 14 during which Species II, Figs. 8-10, which relate to claims 3, 4 and 9 was elected with traverse. The grouping of the Species and the accompanying figures were identified by the Examiner as drawn from the same Election of Species Requirement in the parent application (U.S. Patent Application 10/370,503). Applicants note that claims 3, 4 and 9 of the parent application were renumbered in this application as claims 1, 2 and 5, respectively. Accordingly, Applicants confirm the election of claims 1, 2 and 5 that read on renamed Species I as indicated in this Office Action.

III. Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §102

Claim 2 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102 as anticipated by U.S. Patent 5,551,438 to Moses. The rejection is respectfully traversed.

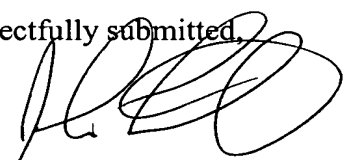
Claim 2 is amended to depend from allowed claim 1. Thus, withdrawal of the rejection of claim 2 under 35 U.S.C. is respectfully requested as Moses fails to disclose each and every feature recited in the amended claim, as revised.

IV. Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of claims 1, 2 and 5 are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,


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